



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/729,010	12/04/2000	Michael Ficco	PD-200235	6750

7590 05/30/2006

Hughes Electronics Corporation
Patent Docket Administration
P.O. Box 956
Bldg. 1, Mail Stop A109
El Segundo, CA 90245-0956

EXAMINER

HOFFMAN, BRANDON S

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2136

DATE MAILED: 05/30/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Supplemental
Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/729,010

Examiner

Brandon S. Hoffman

Applicant(s)

FICCO, MICHAEL

Art Unit

2136

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to printer rush, 5-9-06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 70, 73-80 and 82-90.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.


Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


AYAZ SHEIKH
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 70, 73-80, and 82-90 are allowed.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art fails to teach a plurality of multiplexers, each multiplexer receiving a bit of the input data signal and its inverse from an interface, wherein the multiplexers select either the input bit or its inverse to create an altered video signal. The multiplexers are part of a field programmable gate array. The claims further add steps to scramble the data bits by applying the data to a plurality of multiplexers and then selecting a single bit from each multiplexer to create a scrambled video signal. The multiplexers work at the hardware level to perform altering/scrambling.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

3. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given by Georgann Grunebach (Reg. No. 33,179) on March 30, 2006.

Art Unit: 2136

70. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for storing and retrieving digital video data, comprising:

An interface couple to a system bus and configured to receive from the system bus a plurality of data bits arranged in a data bit pattern;

A plurality of multiplexers, each configured to receive from the interface an associated one of the plurality of data bits in the data bit pattern and its inverse, and configured to output one of the associated one of the plurality data bits or its inverse according to a preprogrammed bit altering scheme, the output of each of the plurality of multiplexers being combined to form an altered data bit pattern, wherein the plurality of multiplexers are implemented in at least one of a hardware device, discrete logic device, or a software device, wherein the hardware device is at least one of a field-programmable gate array, or an application specific integrated circuit; and

A storage device coupled to the interface and configured to store the altered data bit pattern.

71. (Canceled).

72. (Canceled).

76. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for storing and retrieving digital video data, comprising:

An interface couple to a system bus and configured to receive from the system bus a plurality of data bits arranged in a data bit pattern;

A plurality of multiplexers, each configured to receive from the interface each of the plurality of data bits in the data bit pattern and to select a unique one of the data bits according to a preprogrammed bit scrambling scheme, the output of each of the plurality of multiplexers being combined to form an scrambled data bit pattern;

A second plurality of multiplexers, each configured to receive an associated one of the plurality of data bits in the scrambled data bit pattern and its inverse, and configured to output one of the associated one of the plurality of data bits or its inverse according to preprogrammed bit altering scheme, the output of each of the second plurality of multiplexers being combined to form a scrambled and altered data bit pattern, and a storage device coupled to the interface and configured to store the scrambled data bit pattern.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brandon S. Hoffman whose telephone number is 571-272-3863. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30 - 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ayaz R. Sheikh can be reached on 571-272-3795. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Brandon S. Hoffman

BH

Ayaz R. Sheikh
AYAZ SHEIKH
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100